



**Snohomish County
Executive Office**

Aaron Reardon
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August 5, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
c/o Marlene Dortch, Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Docket: WT 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I write to you today to encourage your support of the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA. The benefits to consumers, governments and businesses from improved service, better coverage, increased access and additional investment will be significant.

In Snohomish County, we have responded to the national economic crisis by reexamining operations and service delivery to identify opportunities for efficiencies; looking for practices to maintain or enhance service levels while reducing spending. As a result, we are using technology in new and innovative ways to save money and provide better service to the citizens of Snohomish County.

As with all Americans, a vast number of our residents often choose to communicate wirelessly with each other. It should come as no surprise then that this preference extends beyond private interactions to more official interactions. For example, many prefer to communicate with the government online, often using mobile devices. We want our residents to have all the information they expect to receive from government, and to have it all at their fingertips on their mobile devices.

The impact of AT&T's commitment to extend 4G LTE mobile broadband to 97% of the U.S. population as a result of the proposed merger cannot be overstated. Expanding mobile broadband access to rural areas and improving the speed and capacity of networks in urban areas will provide economic benefits and better information to rural and city dwellers alike. I hope you will join me in supporting the AT&T/T-Mobile merger and ultimately approve the transaction.

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon
Snohomish County Executive